

D-535  
Alonzo L. Miles House  
Cambridge  
1892-93

The Alonzo L. Miles house was designed and built by Cambridge contractor J. Benjamin Brown, a fact that is documented in a September 10, 1892 issue of the *Democrat and News*, which states there was an agreement reached to start construction. The design that "Ben" Brown executed for Alonzo and Agnes Hooper Miles fits under the Queen Anne stylistic label with its asymmetrical plan and variety of gabled and towered forms extended from the main pyramidal roof of the two-and-a-half story dwelling. Unusual to the overall design are several exterior features, including the oriel style window that enhances the gable front pavilion facing Mill Street. The wraparound porch, although rebuilt with a replacement floor and neoclassical metal columns, features an original decorative band of applied turned wood medallions across its cornice. The same medallions are repeated on the corner tower above the porch. The front door follows a different paneling format for the period with a composition of six rectangular and square panels framed by an ogee moldings. The house is joined on the lot by a single-story turn-of-the-twentieth-century, board-and-batten frame garage.

Alonzo L. Miles, a local attorney, and his wife Agnes Hooper, held title to their Mill Street residence for seven years before relocating to Baltimore. The couple sold the house and lot in May 1899 to James W. McCready for \$4,500. James McCready and his wife Anna resided at this location during the first quarter of the twentieth century before selling it in July 1930. The next long-term owners were Vernon S. and Nita Perry

Bradley, who acquired the house and lot in May 1931 and retained ownership for forty-two years.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-535

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Alonzo L. Miles House

other Bradley House

## 2. Location

street and number 311 Mill Street not for publication

city, town Cambridge vicinity

county Dorchester

## 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Guity Panah

street and number P. O. Box 573 telephone 410-849-2271

city, town Crownsville state Maryland zip code 21032-0573

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber MLB 672 folio 78

city, town Cambridge tax map 301 tax parcel 220 tax ID number 108230

## 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	2
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	2
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

## 7. Description

Inventory No. D-535

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Alonzo L. Miles house is a two-and-a-half story Queen Anne style frame dwelling, located at 311 Mill Street, defines the southwest corner of the intersection of Church and Mill Streets in the center of Cambridge, Dorchester County, Maryland. The house faces southeast. Built in 1892-93, the Queen Anne frame house is supported on a common bond brick foundation, and the exterior is sheathed with beaded vinyl siding over the original late nineteenth century siding. The main block of the house features a steeply pitched pyramidal roof with various gables and tower a corner tower extending from it. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

Supported on a partially excavated brick foundation with cellar, the two-and-a-half story Queen Anne frame dwelling is sheathed with a layer of beaded vinyl siding that disguises the various siding finishes common to late Victorian design. The southeast (main) elevation is a asymmetrical façade with a projecting two-and-a-half story projecting pavilion extending from the southeast of the pyramidal roofed main block. The northeast corner is defined by a rebuilt wraparound porch on the first story and a round conical roofed tower above. The porch, consisting of a rebuilt stretcher bond brick foundation, concrete floor and replacement columns, retains a band of Victorian decoration across the fascia of the porch roof. A series of turned round disks or medallions extend around the entire surface of the wraparound porch and are also featured on the cornice fascia of the round tower above. The corner tower has a conical roof topped by a metal finial.

The porch shelters the front door, which retains a late nineteenth century door of unusual configuration with a composition of panels below the lock rail that include alternating square and rectangular shapes framed by an ogee molding. The surface above the door is defined by two long rectangular panels fitted with the same ogee panel molding. Fixed above the door is a multi-pane transom. The adjacent bay to the north (right) is defined by a wooden casement window. The porch ends at the projecting pavilion on the southeast corner and a similar pavilion on the northeast elevation. The front pavilion is three sided with single-pane sash windows lighting the first and second stories. The pavilion has a gable front roof featuring an unusual three-sided oriel window within the pediment that echoes the three-sided shape of the pavilion itself. The attic bay is topped by a three-sided roof that is an extension of the gable roof covering the pavilion. Marking the roof between the pavilion and the round tower is an eyebrow window. The peak of the pyramidal roof has a metal finial as well.

The northeast side elevation is an asymmetrical façade with a projecting pavilion extending from the northwest corner of the wall surface. The three-sided first and second stories are pierced by single pane sash windows, and the attic is lighted by paired window units. The southwest side elevation is defined by an asymmetrical fenestration of single pane sash windows with another two-and-a-half story pavilion projecting from the main block, although it does not feature a three-sided form. Rising through the roof is an internal brick chimney. Attached to the

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Alonzo L. Miles House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 1

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back of the house is a two-story, two-bay kitchen wing, which extended on its northeast side by a single-story shed roofed wing. The kitchen wing is covered by a steeply pitched gable roof.

The house is joined on the lot by a turn of the twentieth century single-story gable roofed frame garage distinguished by an exterior of board-and-batten siding. The gable front structure is located on the back line of the lot facing Church Street.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. D-535

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder J. Benjamin Brown, contractor

Construction dates 1892-93

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Alonzo L Miles house was designed and built by Cambridge contractor J. Benjamin Brown, a fact that is documented in a September 10, 1892 issue of the *Democrat & News* that states there was an agreement to build. The design that "Ben" Brown provided fits under the Queen Anne stylistic label with its asymmetrical plan and variety of gabled and towered forms extending from the main pyramidal roof of the two-and-a-half story dwelling. Unusual to the overall design is the oriel type window that enhances the gable front pavilion facing Mill Street. The wraparound porch, although featuring replacement columns, features a decorative band of applied turned wood medallions across its cornice. The medallions also distinguish the fascia of the tower cornice as well. The front door follows a different paneling format for the period with a composition of six rectangular and square panels framed by ogee moldings.

Alonzo L. Miles, a local attorney, and his wife Agnes Hooper Miles held title to their Mill Street residence for seven years before relocating to Baltimore. The couple sold the house and lot in May 1899 to James W. McCready for \$4,500.<sup>1</sup> James McCready and his wife Anna resided at this location for the first quarter of the twentieth century until selling it in July 1930.<sup>2</sup> The next long term owners were Vernon S. and Nita Perry Bradley, who acquired the house and lot in May 1931<sup>3</sup> and retained ownership for forty-two years.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dorchester County Land Record, CL 23/376, 5.1.1899.

<sup>2</sup> Dorchester County Land Record, JFD 26/92, 7.31.1930.

<sup>3</sup> Dorchester County Land Record, JFD 27/695, 5.28.1931.

<sup>4</sup> Dorchester County Land Record, 181/580, 9.27.1973.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Alonzo L. Miles House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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CHAIN-OF- TITLE  
311 Mill Street

MLB 672/78

Steven G. Panah and Kimberly L. Panah

to

8.24.2005

Guity Panah

Parcel No. 1 and 2 West corner of Mill and Church streets

367/791

Leroy W. Williams

to

10.30.1997

Steven G. Panah and Kimberly Panah  
\$153,000.00

272/380

Larry L. Mills  
Stephanie E. Mills

to

2.28.1992

Leroy W. Williams

Parcels 1 and 2 \$149,500.00

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

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Name Alonzo L. Miles House  
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PLC 215/16 George M. LeCompte et ux. (Sandra H. LeCompte)  
to

6.13.1980 Larry L. Mills and Stephanie E. Mills  
\$37,534.00 311 Mill Street

182/251 Robert M. Hurst and Ruth M. Hurst  
to

11.6.1973 George M. LeCompte and Sandra H. LeCompte

181/580 Evelyn B. Trice and Otis M. Trice, Personal Representatives of the  
Estate of Nita Perry Bradley, deceased  
to

9.27.1973 Robert M. Hurst

Whereas Nita Perry Bradley departed this life January 3, 1973, Will  
Book, MCL 7/335 \$18,500.00

JFD 27/605 Oscar B. Coblentz and Margaret P. Coblentz  
to

5.28.1931 Nita Perry Bradley and Vernon S. Bradley



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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**Continuation Sheet**

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JFD 26/92

Annie B. McCready and James W. McCready

to

7.31.1930

Oscar B. Coblentz

JFD 19/186

Calvin Harrington and Robert H. Harrington, Trustees

to

11.22.1926

Anna B. McCready and James W. McCready

...where the said James W. and Anna B. McCready now reside...

CL 23/376

Alonzo L Miles and Agnes Hooper Miles of Baltimore City

to

5.1.1899

James McCready

\$4,500.00

*Democrat and News*, 9.10.1892

Mr. A. L. Miles has contracted with J. Ben Brown for the erection of a fine dwelling.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-535

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 13,320 square feet  
Acreage of historical setting 13,320 square feet  
Quadrangle name Cambridge, Md 1988

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	9/23/007
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

CHOPTANK

AV.

Aug. 1896  
**CAMBRIDGE**  
MD.

35

3

Detached Frame Dwgs

CHURCH

MILL

LOCUST

D-535, Alonzo L Miles House  
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1896





D-535

Arundo L. Mice's House

CAMPBELLSE, DORCHESTER Co., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

9/07, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEE. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST



D-935

ALONZO L. MILES HOUSE

CAMPBELL, DORCHESTER Co., MD.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

9/07, PAUL TOWNSEND, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEZ/MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

2/2



311 MILL STREET

311 Mill Street is an attractive Queen Anne style house built by the Hon. Alonzo L. Miles. It was designed by J. Benjamin Brown, a prominent Cambridge architect. The exterior of this large, assymetrical two and one-half story house was originally covered with German siding but has recently been superimposed with aluminum siding. On the front facade is a gabled wing with a continuous two story bay window and smaller oriel window above. An unusual eyebrow window pierces the roof. On the northeast corner of the house is a cylindrical tower. Across part of the front and north side of the house is a one story porch. A circle motif ornaments the cornices of the porch, the tower, and the roof.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

D-535

1005355604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

311 Mill Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Dorchester

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☒ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

George M. LeCompte

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

311 Mill Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21613

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Dorchester County Courthouse

Liber #: 182

Folio #: 251

STREET & NUMBER

206 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

21613

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

D-535

## CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This large assymetrical frame house is currently in the process of renovation. It is being altered by the addition of aluminum siding, although it was originally covered with German siding. The house is basically a two and one half story rectangular block with a tall hip roof and a gabled wing on the front with a two story polygonal bay window. In the gable above the bay window is a smaller oriel window. On the northeast corner of the house is a cylindrical tower. Just below the windows on the tower are a few rows of imbricated shingles. Across part of the front and the north side of the house is a one story porch. The cornices of the porch, tower, and roof are ornamented with a circle motif. An unusual detail of this house is the eyebrow window which pierces the roof.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This Queen Anne style house was built for the Hon. Alonzo L. Miles by a local architect named J. Benjamin Brown who designed many of the finest late 19th and early 20th century buildings in Cambridge. It contributes to the character of Mill Street which posses several late 19th and early 20th century houses of architectural significance.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Catherine L. Moore, \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION

DATE

11/27/75

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Route 3, Box 32

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Cambridge

Maryland 21613

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

311 Mill Street

Alonzo L. Miles, a local attorney, erected this house in 1895. The architect was J. Benjamin Brown, who also designed many other buildings in Cambridge in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. This house is one of the finer examples of Queen Anne style architecture on Mill Street and contributes to the character of the upper part of the street.

References:

Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.  
Land Records.

Dorchester County Office Building, Cambridge, Maryland.  
Assessment Records.

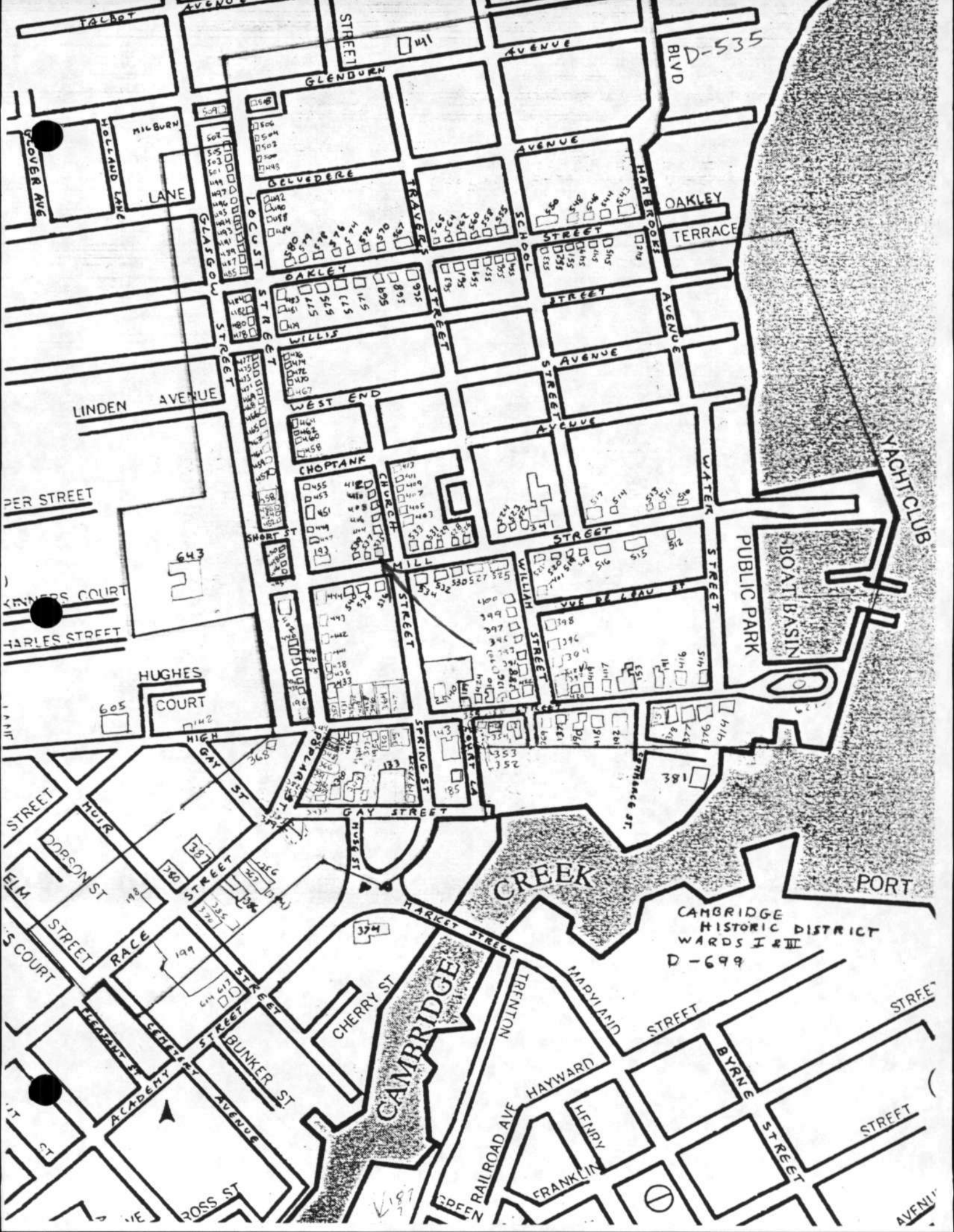
Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. New York and Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1898, pp. 460-461.

Souvenir and Programme of the Maryland Division L.A.W.

Bicycle Meet, Cambridge, Maryland, July 3rd and 4th, 1896.

Baltimore: American Job Printing Office, 1896.

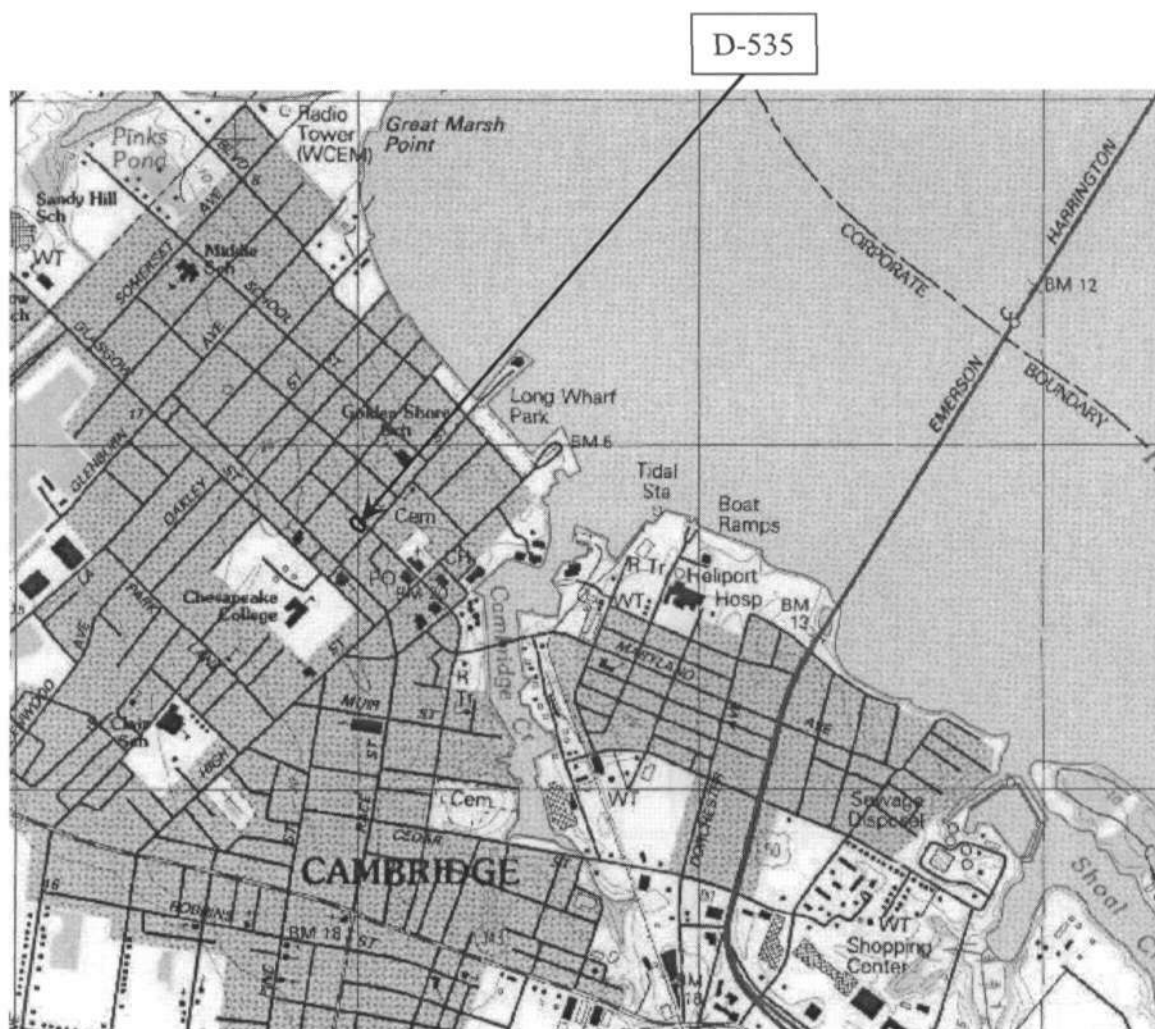




D-535

CAMBRIDGE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
WARDS I & III  
D-699

D-535  
311 Mill St.  
Cambridge  
Cambridge Quad.  
Dorchester Co.







311 MILL ST., CAMBRIDGE, MD. - EAST FACADE - C.L. MOORE, 1976

D-535

63%